

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY RANGOON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

INFO AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 046913

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:PFOR, CB, BM

SUBJECT:BURMESE DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATION IN PHNOM PENH

REFS: RANGOON 0588 (NOTAL) PHNOM PENH 3391 (NOTAL)

1. BELIEVE EMBASSY RANGOON'S SUGGESTION THAT THE GKR TRY
TO INFLUENCE THE GUB TO RETURN ITS REPRESENTATION HAS MERIT.
FOLLOWING RANGOON'S SUGGESTION, DIA HAS PREPARED AN UN-
CLASSIFIED INTELLIGENCE NOTE ON THE IMPROVED MILITARY
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SITUATION WHICH WILL BE SENT SEPTTEL AND CAN BE HANDED TO

GOVERNMENTS DIRECTLY OR THROUGH GKR CHANNELS.

2. WHILE FONMIN KEUKY LIM'S THESIS THAT THE GUB HAS PULLED OUT DUE TO ITS UNWILLINGNESS TO REPRESENT THE USSR IN PHNOM PENH MAY HAVE SOME VALIDITY, THE PREVIOUSLY DETERIORATING SITUATION IN CAMBODIA WAS PROBABLY THE PRIME REASON. AS A PART OF A GENERAL DEMARCHE THE GKR COULD POINT OUT THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE WAFFLED THEIR POSITION ON CAMBODIA SOMEWHAT AND NOT ONLY HAVE KEPT A CARETAKER STAFF IN PHNOM PENH BUT HAVE MODESTLY INCREASED IT. HOWEVER, THE PRIMARY THRUST SHOULD BE THAT THE GKR REMAINS VIABLE AND VICTORY BY THE INSURGENTS APPEARS LESS LIKELY THAN IT HAS FOR SOME TIME PAST.

3. WE HAVE PASSED THE DIA NOTE TO UM SIM HERE AND HE HAS APPROACHED BURMESE AMBASSADOR U LWIN CONCERNING RANGOON'S

INTENTIONS. UM SIM REPORTS THAT U LWIN HAD NOT BEEN AWARE OF THE PULLOUT. UM SIM SUGGESTED THAT U LWIN, SHOULD HE WANT CONFIRMATION OF THE SITUATION, AVAIL HIMSELF OF THE DEPARTMENT OR DOD FOR AN IN DEPTH ASSESSMENT. SIM SAYS THAT, DESPITE U LWIN'S ASSURANCES, HE DOUBTS THAT U LWIN WILL COMMUNICATE WITH RANGOON. IT WOULD, THEREFORE, BE PRUDENT FOR THE GKR TO MAKE A DEMARCHE DIRECTLY IN RANGOON AND PERHAPS ONE OR TWO OTHER PLACES. LONDON WOULD BE ONE SITE WHERE BOTH COUNTRIES HAVE CAPABLE AND RESPECTED ENVOYS. KHMER AMBASSADOR DUOC RASY, A POLITICAL APPOINTEE, IS STRONG AND ARTICULATE AND HE WOULD PUT THE INFORMATION IN THE NOTE TO GOOD USE.

4. EMBASSY RANGOON'S SUGGESTION THAT THE BURMESE MILITARY ATTACHE IN BANGKOK BE APPROACHED IS USEFUL. AMBASSADOR NONG KIMNY IN KUALA LUMPUR IS ALSO A CAPABLE AND ARTICULATE AMBASSADOR.

5. WE DOUBT THAT THE BURMESE AMBASSADOR IN CANBERRA IS IN GOOD ENOUGH ODDOR IN RANGOON TO SERVE AS A CREDITABLE CHANNEL HOME. NEVERTHELESS, KHMER AMBASSADOR CHHUT CHHOEUR SHOULD BE PASSED THE DIA NOTE FOR HIS CONTACTS. KISSINGER

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